

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07
AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 EB-07 /072 W
-----262255Z 053350 /61

R 260907Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8141

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2913

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KU
SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF US ARMS SALES POLICY TALKING POINTS:
APC'S FOR KUWAIT

REF: (A) STATE 115244, (B) STATE 115406, (C) KUWAIT 2518

1. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ASSESS FOR US THE IMPACT OF THE NEW ARMS SALES POLICY UPON THE PENDING COMMERCIAL SALE OF APC'S TO KUWAIT, THE STATUS OF WHICH (AS OF MAY 9) WAS DESCRIBED IN REF C. SPECIFICALLY, DOES PARA 7 C OF REF A (THE PARAGRAPH WHICH SUGGESTS THAT MUNITIONS EXPORT LICENSES WILL NOT BE ISSUED FOR COMMERCIAL EXPORTS OF "ARMORED VEHICLES, AMONG OTHER ITEMS) MEANS THAT THE PENDING COMMERCIAL SALE OF APC'S BY FMC WILL NOT BE APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT? IF NOT, FMS SHOULD BE ADVISED NOT TO SEND REPS TO KUWAIT ON ABOUT JUNE 15 TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACT, AS WE UNDERSTAND FMS NOW PLANS TO DO.

2. IF FMC WERE TO SIGN A COMMERCIAL CONTRACT AND THEN WERE UNABLE TO DELIVER, OWING TO SUBSEQUENT USG EXPORT LICENSE DENIAL, THE KUWAITIS WOULD VIEW SUCH REFUSAL AS USG'S HAVING OPENED AND THEN SHUT TWO DOORS IN THEIR FACES--FIRST, BY FURNISHING USG-APPROVED FMS LETTER OF OFFER IN FALL 1976, WHICH CONTAINED UNACCEPTABLY LONG PRODUCTION LEAD TIMES, AND SECOND BY RECOMMENDING IN WINTER 1976 THE ALTERNATIVE OF A COMMERCIAL SALE WHICH EXPORT
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LICENSE REFUSAL THEN MADE IMPOSSIBLE. THIS WOULD PLACE EMBASSY IN EMBARRASSING POSITION WHICH WE DESIRE TO AVOID. MOREOVER, WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT USG HAS NO WRITTEN COMMITMENT TO PERMIT THE SALE OF APC'S TO KUWAIT, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE KUWAITIS WILL REMEMBER THE 1976 APPROVAL BY CONGRESS AND THE THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION. IN THIS SENSE, THE USG APPROVAL WAS IN THE "PIPELINE" LONG AGO, THOUGHT THE MATERIEL NEVER GOT

ON THE PRODUCTION LINE. THUS, A REFUSAL TO LICENCE THE EXPORT
NOW WILL LIKELY TO BE VIEWED HERE AS REVERSAL BY THE CURRENT
ADMINISTRATION OF A PREVIOUS DECISION FAVORABLE TO KUWAIT.
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY SALES, MILITARY VEHICLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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